

IN RECOGNITION OF RAYMOND E. COOK OF THE FIRST SPECIAL SERVICE FORCE

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the tremendous service of Raymond E. Cook of Brimfield, Massachusetts who received the Congressional Gold Medal along with his comrades of the First Special Service Force on February 3, 2015.

The First Special Service Force was an elite military unit during World War II comprised of volunteers from the United States and Canada. This unit was specifically trained to fight behind enemy lines in the most inhospitable conditions. They distinguished themselves on multiple occasions, most notably for their critical role in Allied victories in Italy, North Africa, southern France, and Anzio Beach. The unit became known as the "Black Devils" because they would blacken their faces for nighttime missions.

Raymond served as an United States Army Ranger before joining the First Special Service Force in early 1944 and remained with them until the unit was disbanded at the end of that year. Raymond continued to serve in the Army until he was honorably discharged in October 1945. During his tour of service, Raymond was awarded two Purple Hearts for the injuries he sustained during combat.

Mr. Speaker, Raymond Cook fought courageously for the ideals of freedom and peace that our nation holds dear. I want to thank him for his service and congratulate him on receiving the highest award that Congress can bestow.

HONORING MR. HERB HOMEYER FOR BEING NAMED THE 2015 NATIONAL TOOLING AND MACHINING ASSOCIATION (NTMA) CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine, Mr. Herb Homeyer, President of Homeyer Precision Manufacturing in Marthasville, MO. Mr. Homeyer will be named the 2015 National Tooling and Machining Association (NTMA) Chairman of the Board on Thursday, March 5, 2015. As the national representative of the precision custom manufacturing industry, Mr. Homeyer will tell the story of the NTMA. Backed by nearly 2000 members and representing more than \$40 billion in sales, the clout collectively wielded by this association is considerable. NTMA serves as a valuable national resource for their members, helping them grow profitably.

Homeyer Precision Manufacturing serves key clients in the industries of Aerospace/Defense, Commercial/Industrial, Military, Medical/Pharmaceutical, Oil & Gas/Energy, Semiconductors/Lasers, Electrical/Electronics, and Transportation/Agriculture. The company and

its 63 employees are also major supporters of Manufacturing Day. They opened their doors to over 150 students for a facility tour to help reach out to the next generation and to show what opportunities are available in manufacturing not only in their community, but in the United States.

Herb Homeyer's 43 years in precision manufacturing began as a tool/die maker, then a tool designer, and finally an owner of a company specializing in aerospace tooling, medical, laser components, and high voltage transmission.

Homeyer Precision Manufacturing is one of over 1400 companies that are members of the NTMA that supports U.S. manufacturing and creates employment opportunities in their communities. Tools, dies, molds, precision machining, and special machines shape virtually every single product that is mass manufactured in the United States. This industry is at the very heart of manufacturing in this country and therefore it touches the lives of every American.

It is an honor to have the new chairman of the NTMA from not only my home state of Missouri, but also the 3rd District of Missouri.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call #65 on the Schrader amendment to H.R. 527, I am not recorded because I was absent due to a death in the family. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay.

On Roll Call #66 on the Jackson Lee amendment to H.R. 527, I am not recorded because I was absent due to a death in the family. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay.

On Roll Call #67 on the Motion to recommit with instructions to H.R. 527, I am not recorded because I was absent due to a death in the family. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay.

On Roll Call #68 on the Passage of H.R. 527, I am not recorded because I was absent due to a death in the family. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for votes on Thursday, February 5, 2015.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on roll call vote 65, "yea" on roll call vote 66, and "yea" on roll call vote 67.

Finally, I would like to indicate that I would have voted "nay" on roll call vote 68 in opposition to H.R. 527, the Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2015.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 48 I was unable to make votes due to the weather (snow storm) in Pennsylvania.

Had I been present, I would have voted yea.

LOGAN HUGHES APPOINTMENT TO UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to congratulate Mr. Logan Hughes on his appointment to the United States Military Academy.

Mr. Hughes is an incredibly accomplished young man from Evans, Georgia. Logan is the son of Michael and Laura Hughes, and is a graduate of the Greenbriar High School. During his time there, Logan exhibited his dedication to leadership while serving as the High School NJRTOC Battalion Executive Officer.

Among his many accolades, Logan also showcased academic prowess by his involvement with the National Honor Society, and the Spanish Honor Society.

Mr. Speaker, Logan Hughes is also a young man who is also dedicated to improving his community through service. Logan led service efforts at Wesley United Methodist Church as a service acolyte.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I understand that Mr. Hughes is no stranger to the rigorous work ethic required to be considered as a candidate for the United States Military Academy. With Mr. Hughes' Grandfather as outstanding example of an Army Officer, I am confident that Logan will accomplish his ultimate goal of serving his nation as a United States soldier.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to congratulate Mr. Logan Hughes.

TO REAUTHORIZE THE PRE-DISASTER HAZARD MITIGATION PROGRAM

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to introduce a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to reauthorize the pre-disaster hazard mitigation program.

First authorized in 2000, the pre-disaster hazard mitigation program has a proven history of saving taxpayer money by investing in cost effective projects that are designed to reduce injuries, loss of life, and damage and destruction of property in the event of a disaster. As the old adage goes: an ounce of prevention is worth its weight in gold.

This is true for the pre-disaster hazard mitigation program. In 2005, the Multi Hazard Mitigation Council of the National Institute of